

experience : responses to sensation are complicated by the rivalry of conflicting feelings. and the primary reaction may be checked. A caged bird will not snatch food from the hand if it be afraid of the person who offers it. But, even in the lowest organisms, the sequence of action upon sensation does not appear to be as inevitable as, for instance, the response of iron filings to a magnet: the humblest of them show appearances of hesitation, of choice, which would be inexplicable in simple automata. And in one essential particular the sensation and reaction of living things differs from the effect of light upon a photographic plate : it is attended by *feeling*—dim and vague no doubt in the lower ranks of the animal and in the vegetable kingdom, but still something which, higher up the scale, has been elaborated into consciousness.

*Changefulness.*—Life, it would seem, can ally itself with Matter only by driving Matter into a state of continual change. The materials that compose the vital organs of plants and animals are never constant: elaborate compounds are built up from the food only to be disintegrated and expelled as waste. Individuals are, then, ever changing their composition: and by birth and death the tribe is ever changing its individuals. Nor by this process is merely one individual substituted for another : formed by contributions from two parents, each new individual

differs  
from its predecessors. And as tribes  
change their  
individuals. so does the kingdom  
change its  
tribes. Of the species, animal and  
vegetable.  
that are alive at present. but very few  
existed in  
the days—geologically not very remote  
—when  
the earth was dominated by enormous  
lizards. or  
when it grew the dense forests of which  
coal-beds